





## **Licensing Your Dog**

You may obtain, in person or by mail, a dog license from the City Clerk's Office, at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue. The office provides dog licenses Monday-Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.-12 noon.

If you come to City Hall, bring evidence of the dog's most recent rabies vaccine, and evidence that the dog has been spayed or neutered, if applicable.

If you prefer, go to the City's website to download complete instructions and a form to mail in with your check. Go to <a href="https://www.somervillema.gov">www.somervillema.gov</a>, navigate to the "Forms Library," then search for "Dog License."

The fee is \$30.00, or \$20.00 if the dog has been spayed or neutered.



#### **Off-Leash Recreational Areas**

The City has designated Three Off-Leash Recreational Areas (OLRAs):

- Nunziato Field (Summer St. at Putnam St.)
- Ed Leathers Park (Walnut St.)
- 0 New Washington St.

OLRAs are subject to the following Regulations for the safe and lawful enjoyment of Somerville's open space by everyone:

- Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting the area.
- No access from 10 p.m. until 8 a.m.
- No aggressive dogs.
- No excessive barking.
- Dog owners must have a leash in hand at all times.
- Dogs must never be left unattended.
- Owners must have their dog in view and under physical and/or vocal control.
- Owners are legally and financially responsible for their dogs' actions.
- Owners must pick up all feces and immediately dispose of them in a trash receptacle.
- Each person is limited to 3 dogs.
- Dogs in heat are not allowed.
- Dogs must be at least 4 months old.
- Dogs must wear a collar with a valid license and be current with all vaccinations.
- Violators of these rules are subject to removal from the area and/or fines.

### **Dog-Friendly Parks**

The City has designated Nine Dog-Friendly Parks:

- Bailey Park
- Community Path (including Seven Hills Park)
- Osgood Park
- Palmacci Park
- Perry Park
- Nathan Tufts (Powder House) Park
- Prospect Hill Park
- Quincy Street Lot
- Somerville Junction Park

In addition, the State has designated Four Dog-Friendly Parks in Somerville:

- Dilboy Field
- Draw 7 Park
- Foss Park
- Mystic River Reservation

Dog-Friendly Parks are subject to the following Regulations for the safe and lawful enjoyment of Somerville's open space by everyone:

- Dogs must be leashed at all times.
- Owners must pick up all feces and immediately dispose of them in a trash receptacle.
- All other park rules apply.

#### **Animal Control Office**

The Somerville Animal Control Office was established under M.G.L. Ch. 140, Secs. 136 - 174. The Office is responsible for:

Responding to all calls about sick, injured or dangerous animals.

Enforcing ordinances regarding animals including cruelty to animals, abandoned or loose animals and animals in city parks.

Quarantining animals that have bitten or been bitten, filing mandated bite reports and following through with any necessary prosecution.

Maintaining the city kennel (unclaimed dogs are required to be held for 7 days), and a viable adoption program.

#### Animal Control Office, 1 Francy Road 617 625-6600 x2190

Officer April Terrio ATerrio@somervillema.gov

Officer Rachel Taylor RTaylor@somervillema.gov



The City gratefully accepts donations for the city kennel. To donate, simply send a check payable to "Somerville Animal Control" to the Police Department, 220 Washington Street, Somerville, 02143. Thank You!

# Please be advised of the following state laws and municipal ordinances relating to dogs:

All dogs over the age of 6 months must be licensed by the City Clerk's Office, and licenses must be renewed each year in January (M.G.L. Ch. 140, Sec. 137).

All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies (M.G.L. Ch. 140, Sec. 145B).

All dogs must be leashed at all times within the city except in posted Off-Leash Recreational Areas (City Ord. 3-34).

No dogs are allowed in schoolyards and churchyards. (City Ord. 3-32).

No dogs are allowed in city parks at which "No Dogs Allowed" signs are posted (City Ord. 12-51).

All dog owners must pick up after their dogs at all times (City Ord. 3-38).

All dog owners must follow all Off-Leash Recreational Area regulations (City Ord. 3-34).

Each offense is subject to a \$50.00 fine.

For more information go to www.somervillema.gov or call 311.

# RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP IN SOMERVILLE

2015



Joseph A. Curtatone Mayor